

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. In a mobile terminal provided with a rotating key having a plurality of dome switches on one side which can detect a contact signal when
5 pressed and a plurality of contact surfaces on the other side which can detect the position of the rotating key in each direction of rotation, a method for using the rotating key comprising the steps of:
 - detecting if the rotating key is turned or a dome switch is pressed in a menu or function selection mode;
 - 10 when the rotating key is turned, selecting a menu according to the direction of rotation; and
 - when a dome switch is pressed, selecting a menu or function according to the pressed dome switch.
- 15 2. The method according to claim 1, wherein said step of turning the rotating key to select a menu or function comprises:
 - when the rotating key is turned clockwise, moving a cursor to menus or functions in a predetermined direction; and
 - when the rotating key is turned counterclockwise, moving the cursor to
20 menus or functions in the opposite direction.
3. The method according to claim 2, wherein in an up/down scroll display mode, said cursor moves to upper menus or functions when the rotating key is turned clockwise and to lower menus or functions when the rotating key is
25 turned counterclockwise.
4. The method according to claim 3, wherein said cursor moves to lower menus or functions when the rotating key is turned clockwise and to upper menus or functions when the rotating key is turned counterclockwise.
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5. The method according to claim 2, wherein in a left/right scroll display mode, said cursor moves to left menus or functions when the rotating key is turned clockwise and to right menus or functions when the rotating key is

turned counterclockwise.

6. The method according to claim 5, wherein said cursor moves to right menus or functions when the rotating key is turned clockwise and to left
5 menus or functions when the rotating key is turned counterclockwise.

7. The method according to claim 1, wherein said step of pressing a dome switch to select a menu or function comprises:

when a left or right dome switch is pressed, moving a cursor to left or
10 right menus or functions; and

when an upper or lower dome switch is pressed, moving the cursor to upper or lower menus or functions.

8. The method according to claim 1, wherein said dome switches
15 are used as short-cut keys.

9. The method according to claim 1, wherein the function comprises at least one of a zoom, brightness level, direction of motion picture and selecting channel.

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10. In a mobile terminal provided with a camera and a rotating key which has a plurality of dome switches to detect a contact signal when pressed and a plurality of contact surfaces to detect the position of the rotating key in each direction of rotation, a method for using the rotating key comprising the steps of:

25 when a zoom function is selected in a camera mode, zooming in or out according to the direction and speed of rotation of the rotating key; and

when a brightness control function is selected in the camera mode, controlling the brightness of a picture according to the direction and speed of rotation of the rotating key.

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11. The method according to claim 10, wherein said step of zooming in or out in the camera mode comprises:

when the rotating key is turned clockwise, zooming in or out according to

the turning speed; and

when the rotating key is turned counterclockwise, zooming out or in according to the turning speed.

5 12. The method according to claim 10, wherein said step of controlling the brightness comprises:

when the rotating key is turned clockwise, increasing or decreasing the brightness of the picture according to the turning speed; and

10 when the rotating key is turned counterclockwise, decreasing or increasing the brightness of the picture according to the turning speed.

13. The method according to claim 10, wherein said dome switches are used to perform the zoom function or the brightness control function.

15 14. In a mobile terminal provided with a camera and a rotating key which has a plurality of dome switches on one side to detect a contact signal when pressed and a plurality of contact surfaces on the other side to detect the position of the rotating key in each direction of rotation, a method for using the rotating key comprising the steps of:

20 detecting the direction and speed of rotation of the rotating key to reproduce a moving picture;

when the rotating key is turned clockwise, reproducing the moving picture according to the turning speed in a predetermined direction corresponding to the clockwise turning; and

25 when the rotating key is turned counterclockwise, reproducing the moving picture according to the turning speed in a predetermined direction corresponding to the counterclockwise turning.

15. In a mobile terminal provided with a TV receiver and a rotating
30 key which has a plurality of dome switches on one side to detect a contact signal when pressed and a plurality of contact surfaces on the other side to detect the position of the rotating key in each direction of rotation, a method for using the rotating key comprising the steps of:

detecting the direction of rotation of the rotating key to select a channel in a television mode; and

displaying video signals broadcast on a channel selected according to the direction of rotation of the rotating key.

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16. The method according to claim 15, wherein said dome switches are used to select a channel.

17. A mobile terminal for selecting a menu, the mobile terminal
10 comprises:

a rotating key having a plurality of dome switches which can detect a contact signal when pressed and a plurality of contact surfaces which can detect the position of the rotating key in each direction of rotation;

a display for displaying a menu; and

15 a controller for

detecting if the rotating key is turned or a dome switch is pressed in a menu selection mode;

selecting a menu according to the direction of rotation when the rotating key is turned; and

20 selecting a menu according to the pressed dome switch when the dome switch is pressed.

18. The mobile terminal according to claim 17, wherein when the rotating key is turned clockwise, the controller moves a cursor to menus in a
25 predetermined direction; and when the rotating key is turned counterclockwise, the controller moves the cursor to menus in the opposite direction.

19. The mobile terminal according to claim 18, wherein in an up/down scroll display mode, the cursor moves to upper menus when the rotating
30 key is turned clockwise and to lower menus when the rotating key is turned counterclockwise.

20. The mobile terminal according to claim 19, wherein said cursor

moves to lower menus when the rotating key is turned clockwise and to upper menus when the rotating key is turned counterclockwise.

21. The mobile terminal according to claim 18, wherein in a left/right scroll display mode, said cursor moves to left menus when the rotating key is turned clockwise and to right menus when the rotating key is turned counterclockwise.

22. The mobile terminal according to claim 21, wherein said cursor moves to right menus when the rotating key is turned clockwise and to left menus when the rotating key is turned counterclockwise.

23. The mobile terminal according to claim 17, wherein the controller moves a cursor to left or right menus when a left or right dome switch is pressed; and moves the cursor to upper or lower menus when an upper or lower dome switch is pressed.

24. The mobile terminal according to claim 17, wherein the dome switches are used as short-cut keys.

25. A mobile terminal for selecting a menu, the mobile terminal comprises:

a rotating key having a plurality of dome switches which can detect a contact signal when pressed and a plurality of contact surfaces which can detect the position of the rotating key in each direction of rotation;

a display for displaying a menu; and

a controller for performing the following operations

zooming in or out according to the direction and speed of rotation of the rotating key when a zoom function is selected in a camera mode; and

controlling the brightness of a picture according to the direction and speed of rotation of the rotating key when a brightness control function is selected in the camera mode.

26. The mobile terminal according to claim 25 wherein the controller zooms in or out according to the turning speed when the rotating key is turned clockwise; and zooms out or in according to the turning speed when the rotating key is turned counterclockwise.

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27. The mobile terminal according to claim 25, wherein the controller increases or decreases the brightness of the picture according to the turning speed when the rotating key is turned clockwise; and decreases or increases the brightness of the picture according to the turning speed when the
10 rotating key is turned counterclockwise.

28. The mobile terminal according to claim 25, wherein said dome switches are used to perform the zoom function or the brightness control function.

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